

CITY MANAGER
George E. Tockstein



CITY OF SANTEE

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June 15, 1999

Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
Grand Jury
County of San Diego
330 West Broadway, Suite 477
San Diego, CA 92101-3830

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JUN 15 1999
SAN DIEGO
COUNTY GRAND JURY

RE: Response To San Diego Grand Jury 1998-1999 Report: "Implementation of the Multiple Conservation Program"

The following represents the response of the City of Santee to recommendations that are contained within the above-referenced report, which pertain to the City of Santee.

Recommendation 99-99:

The Cities of El Cajon, La Mesa and Santee should fund the MSCP *if necessary* as the plan is implemented. At the present time, it is not expected that this funding will be necessary.

Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted nor is it reasonable. The City of Santee agrees that it is unlikely that the City will need to fund the plan. The City's draft subarea plan was designed to ensure that future development within the City would be required to dedicate the amount of acreage (or greater) of habitat shown within the plan as being needed to be acquired. (For further explanation, please see response to 99-102 below.)

Recommendation 99-100:

The Cities of Chula Vista and Santee should bring their respective subarea plans forward to their respective City Councils in an expeditious manner.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be in either late 1999 or early 2000.

Recommendation 99-102:

The San Diego City Council, the San Diego Board of Supervisors, the City Councils of Chula Vista, Coronado, Del Mar, El Cajon, La Mesa, Poway, and Santee, and the Board of Directors of the Otay Water District should identify an existing organization or create a new organization to determine an equitable means of funding the long-term management of MSCP lands. This means of funding should not be reliant on the proposed local regional funding source. It should be funds from each participating jurisdiction based on acreage, population, and/or other criteria, which the jurisdictions identify. In addition to determining the funding for management of the land, participating jurisdiction should identify an existing organization or create a new organization for the allocation of management funds.

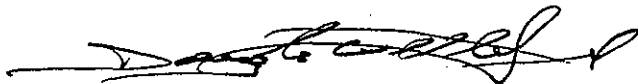
Response: The recommendation will be partially implemented in the future. The City of Santee agrees that an organization should exist to determine an equitable means of funding the long-term management of MSCP lands. The City of Santee does not agree that this method of funding should be from each participating agency rather than a local regional funding source. The establishment of a local regional funding source is the most equitable and the most reliable method of long-term funding for the MSCP.

The need for the MSCP is due to the limited amount of habitat still remaining within the region. The cause for this situation, as well as the future benefits of the MSCP, are to a significant extent shared by the citizens within communities which no longer have large areas of habitat remaining. If only the jurisdictions which still contain habitat are required to shoulder the entire financial responsibility for the management of the MSCP, then this would represent an unfair and inequitable method of funding.

Furthermore, use of local funds is entirely dependent upon the fiscal situation of each local jurisdiction over the long-term. Reliance upon this form of funding is highly unstable and subject to inconsistencies. At the present time and for the foreseeable future, the City of Santee has no ability to fund the long-term management of MSCP lands.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas Williford", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Douglas Williford, AICP
Interim Director
Department of Development Services